UNCANNY X-MEN

ISSUE 493





MESSIAH COMPLEX

chapter six

BRUBAKER MARVEL TAN

MESSIAH COMPLEX UNGANNY

After M-Day, mutantkind neared extinction. Once hailed as humanity's replacement, it appeared mutants, now reduced to a few hundred, would fade into oblivion. But a new mutant baby has arrived, the first since M-Day, and with it, hope for mutantkind.

Previously in MESSIAH COMPLEX...

The new mutant baby has been kidnapped. Suspecting Mr. Sinister, the X-Men attacked his base in Antarctica only to learn that Sinister didn't have the baby. Instead the renegade mutant Cable, previously thought dead, had resurfaced and stolen the child. His whereabouts and his intentions remain unclear:

Meanwhile the New X-Men kids, students at the Xavier Institute, wanting to help in the search, snuck out to investigate the Purifiers, a mutanthating religious organization determined to kill the mutant baby. While there, they suffered a brutal attack from the Reavers, genetically modified mercenaries hired by the Purifiers. Luckily, they got away.

Shortly thereafter the giant Sentinels charged with protecting the Xavier Institute malfunctioned and attacked the mansion.

CHAPTER SIX:

Ed Brubaker: Writer
Billy Tan: Penciler
Danny Miki w/ Allen Martinez: Inkers
Frank D'Armata: Colorist
Joe Caramagna: Letterer
Will Panzo: Assistant Editor
Nick Lowe: Editor
Axel Alonso: Executive Editor
Joe Quesada: Editor in Chief
Dan Bucklev: Publisher

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X - MEN: MESSIAH COMPLEX



NEXT WEEK

LADY DEATHSTRIKE VS. CABLE.

LAYLA AND JAMIE APPREHENDED.

AND X-FORCE BEGINS THEIR HUNT.



VARIANT COVER



ED BRUBAKER KEVIN GREVIOUX CHRISTOS GAGE

MARKO DJURDJEVIC

GUSTAVO

HARVEY TOLIBAO

COVER BY MARC SILVESTRI WRAPAROUND COVER BY MARKO DIURDIEVIC

A MARVEL COMICS EVENT IN ONE PART

DECEMBER 2007

MARVEL



M: Iron Fist is one of those characters no one would've expected to be such a mainstream critical darling. Why do you think he's so irresistible to such a diverse group of people?

MF Three words, baby: KUNG PU BILLIONAIRE. It shouldn't be moket science, you know? Reduce Danny Rand down to his three most essential words and you find a great comic book waiting to happen.

> M: We've recently learned that Danny Band can do some gretty cool new things with his power. What's the oddest/funniest new thing Danny can do with the power of the Iron Fist?

MF He can keep artist David Aia hypnotized into stavino on THE IMMORTAL IRON FIST for a good long while, when surely he could be drawing almost any book on the market.

> M: Why the aversion to shirts from Denny's opponents such as Davos? Do they just realize their costumes could never he as cool?

MF: Super-villains in Danny's world are sick and tired of your uptight nipple oppression. pal. Maybe if button-down squares like you weren't such shirt-fascists, these guys wouldn't have to BE evil? Why are you so afraid of male nipples, but? You ever heroes. This can't end well for all parties involved, can it? I

be revealed-- it's a social experiment, first and foremost, Here's the thing: we're All damaged. All of us-- real and firtinnal alike. Stark is just as damaged as Henry Hellrung.

Order and what's gonna happen when they screw up, but rather we're ALL human, we ALL screw up, and so, for these damaged people, what do they do when given the apportunity to heal themselves by helping others? When given the apportunity to rise, do they take it?

Also, how many billions of things can I get Barry Kitson to draw in a single panet?

- M: One of the most fascinating aspects of this book is that our leads are clearly heroes while fighting evil...but outside of their super-heroic identities, there are certainly some concerns about their decisions. Just how far will some of these characters go to right what they perceive as wrongs?
- MF You know. I just wrote a scene between Kate (the PR person) and Pepper Potts, arguing over that same point. I think that's really the very definition of "hero"-when you're willing to walk alone and take grave risks to do the right thing. "Speak your mind, even if your voice trembles," right? In a nutshell, that's what the Order is all about. Rising up and doing right, in the face of nearinsurmountable difficulty.
- Mr You've created most of these characters from scratch (though some like Pepper have been around awhile), meaning they're a blank canvas for you to paint. Is that freedom ever intimidating or just a writer's dream come true?
- MF: Boy, a little bit of both, really. It's great to be given the chance to create a brand new super-hero team for the Marvel Universe, and the pride of creation I know Barry and I both feel is incredible beyond belief. To be allowed to sew our little square onto the, uh, Marvel quilt, is just incredible.
- M: These guys can only be heroes for one year. What hapnens if someone doesn't want to stop helping the helpless after one year?

MF: Let me answer your question with a question: do you need a cape and superpowers to help the helpless? 'Nuff Said! Incredible.



A new ongoing series.

Jeph Loeb • Ed McGuinness

January 2008



QUESTIONS THAT NEED ANSWERS! WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR COMIC BOOKS? "Some get begged and boarded, all the rest get donated to either a kids-priented charity or the USO." - MARC GUGGENHEIM - Writer (Amazing Spider-Man, Marvel Comics Presents) "I stockpile them and give them out on Halloween, reasoning that it's better to rot a kid's mind than his teeth."

- PETER DAVID - Writer (X-Factor: She-Hulk)

"I box them in no particular order into long boxes and file them away... never to be seen or heard from again. I currently have about 40 long boxes in my basement. I dream of one day organizing them... but v'know... I'm sure that'll never hangen.

- ROBERT KIRKMAN - Writer

(Marvel Zombies II. I Iltimate X-Men)

"I stack them next to my bed until I've read them. Then I stack them in my wardrobe, against the day when I'll put them in long boxes in some kind of order. It's never going to happen."

- MIKE CAREY - Writer

(X-Men. Ultimate Fantastic Four)

"Read them, then drop them in long boxes, as is, no bags or boards and in no particular order. I keep telling myself I'll organize them some day."

- C.B. CEBULSKI - Writer (Loners, Fairy Tales)

"No bagging, keep some, give some to local kids of all ages! Oh, and I use long boxes to prop up parts of my office!"

- JOHN ROMITA Jr. - Artist

(World War Hulk, Amazing Spider-Man)

"I occasionally read them but mostly they sit in boxes until somebody comes along and says "Oh look, comics, can I have them?" It's not that I don't like them but that I never seem to have the time to read them. My kids are more into games than comics and if I took them home my wife would hate them cluttering up the house. Simple answer: I stockpile and other people read them.*

- BRYAN HITCH - Artist (Ultimates, Fantastic Four)

"When I get extras, I give them to my cheapskate friends. If I get 1 or 2, I keep 'em for myself."

- LEINIL YU - Artist (New Avengers)

"I give them away to anyone who wants to read them and the ones that I read while outside of my home or office, I pay forward. In other words I leave them in assorted places. Whether it be airport terminals, the train, doctors' offices, anywhere I finish a comic is where I leave it; you never know who may pick it up next."

- JOE QUESADA - Marvel Editor-in-Chief, Artist (Amazina Spider-Man)



